



Middletown Police Department

222 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457



BRANDON DRAKE (Age-22) 78 Saybrook Rd, Middletown, CT

On Friday, September 16, 2011 at approximately 9:30AM, Middletown Officers Robert Kraeger and David Woolard traveled to Brandon Drake's residence at 78 Saybrook Road intending to serve four outstanding warrants. Officer Kraeger observed Drake inside of the residence through a window and ordered him to surrender. Other officers arrived on scene to assist and Drake was taken into custody without incident. He was transported to Middletown police headquarters and processed on the four outstanding warrants.

Brandon Drake was reportedly involved in two domestic related incidents in Middletown with the same female victim on July 21, 2011 and August 23, 2011. Both times, Drake fled the scene prior to the arrival of the police.

On September 4, 2011, at approximately 2:56AM, suspect Brandon Drake was observed walking southbound on DeKoven Drive by Middletown Patrol Officer Frederick Dirga. Officer Dirga recognized Drake from past encounters and also knew that Drake had outstanding warrants. The officer attempted to stop Drake but he immediately fled and a foot chase ensued across train tracks toward Rt.9. Drake ran across the south and northbound lanes of the highway causing oncoming vehicles to make emergency stops to avoid collisions. With back up on the way, Officer Dirga pursued Drake into the Harbor Park area towards the river where ground conditions were extremely hazardous due to the recently receding river. Drake climbed over a fence and onto a dock where he continued to run southbound with officers pursuing him on foot parallel to the fence. At one point, Drake became winded and stopped. Officer Dirga commanded him to surrender and made attempts to apprehend him. To avoid capture, Drake jumped into the Connecticut River and swam east toward the center. Middletown Officers pleaded for him to return to shore but their attempts were ignored. Middletown Police and Fire rescue units responded with boats and watercraft equipment to search the river for Drake. The US Coast Guard was contacted and agreed to send a helicopter from the Cape Cod area. They also assisted by preparing to launch a Cutter at 6:17AM for the rescue effort. At approximately 5:20AM Middletown officers went to Drake's mother's residence at 78 Saybrook Road in Middletown, CT to notify her that attempts to rescue her son from the river were currently underway after attempting to apprehend him. Drake's mother informed officers that she recently had contact with Drake and that he was safe. She contacted Drake by phone and allowed officers to speak with him. He personally told officers that he was safe but would not disclose his location. At that point, officers were convinced that Drake was no longer in the Connecticut River. The rescue search was called off.

Brandon Drake is being held in Middletown Police lockup on bonds totaling \$95,000.00 dollars.

"To proudly serve in partnership with the community through a commitment to excellence, professionalism and integrity."